

Substitute Physicians Request due April 29, 2016

Background

Section 9.2.2 of the Medical and Nursing Specialists, Physicians, and Physician Assistants Handbook in the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual (TMPPM) describes requirements for substitute physicians using reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements.

Request

HHSC is requesting information from the Medicaid MCOs regarding substitute physicians to help inform responses to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS') questions regarding Texas' request to allow substitute dentists in the Children's Medicaid Dental Services managed care program. HHSC requests that STAR, STAR Health and STAR+PLUS MCOs provide the following information below by **April 29, 2016**. If you have questions, please contact Aggie Hernandez agneta.hernandez@hhsc.state.tx.us. Please send responses to Aggie Hernandez and copy your health plan management team.

- 1) Does your MCO require a substitute physician to be a credentialed network provider?
- 2) Does your MCO require the use of modifiers Q5 (reciprocal arrangements) and Q6 (locum tenens arrangements) on claim forms as described in the TMPPM for FFS?
- 3) Does your MCO track the use of reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements by your network physicians?
- 4) If your MCO tracks reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements, please provide the following for federal fiscal year 2015 (October 1, 2014-September 30, 2015).
 - a. Combined total number of claims for reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements
 - b. Percentage of claims for reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements as compared to all physical health claims
 - c. Combined total dollar amount of provider claims for reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements
- 5) If your MCO tracks reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements, how has use of these arrangements trended over the last three calendar years (January 1, 2013-December 31, 2015)? For example, have they increased, decreased, or remained level?
- 6) Does your MCO undergo audits or claim reviews of reciprocal arrangements and locum tenens arrangements?